

last seen a way to crush a large portion of the German armies.

In the British capital, as in other allied centers, there is the most intense expectation. Events of far-reaching importance in the world war are looked for.

Are Eager to Surrender.

All reports from the front say that the French and American troops crashed into the enemy's position with the most unparallelled fury and that the Germans were carried off their feet by the dash of the attack. The German batteries and machine gun positions were cut to shreds by the intensity of the allied fire and the defenders came streaming out in thousands with their hands in the air and the old German cry of "Kamerad" on their lips.

Huge detachments of prisoners were sent to the rear in a steady stream, while German guns, in many instances, were turned upon their late owners. Immense quantities of war materials of all kinds fell into French and American hands.

The French for the first time used their new "mosquito" tanks, and these did terrible execution among the Germans. Driving ahead of the infantry, turning, twisting, climbing over trenches and shell holes, they poured steady streams of lead into the gray clad ranks.

Object of Foch's Strategy.

The plan of the attack is seen by military critics here to have been magnificent in its conception and of a boldness characteristic of Gen. Foch. His design, observers believe, is the separation of that entire group of German armies operating in the salient extending from Soissons to Rheims, which includes all the German now operating under the direction of the Crown Prince from Rheims to Chateau Thierry, including the thousands along the Marne.

In these divisions are known to be many of the best remaining troops of the German army, including several divisions of Prussian Guards.

The advance proceeded with such rapidity that already the French and Americans are in direct control of many German supply railroads, particularly the route by which the German troops operating around Chateau Thierry are fed and armed. Unless the German higher command can throw in enough reserves to stop the allied advance, and that quickly, it is not unlikely that the Germans along the Marne will be cut off from their supplies. This would be a major catastrophe to the German military command the effect of which could hardly be overestimated.

The Germans organized numerous counter attacks, but almost without exception they were feeble and easily overcome.

SITUATION ON ENTIRE FRONT TRANSFORMED

London "Times" Praises Foch's Master Stroke.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun from the London Times.

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LONDON, July 19.—Belief that Foch's offensive has transformed the whole western battle situation is expressed in an editorial in the Times this morning (Friday).

"Gen. Foch's brilliant counter stroke against the vulnerable western side of the new German salient has possibly destroyed the diminishing prospects of the new German offensive," says the article. "It is already realized that this stroke is one of the most brilliant operations of the war. It may even bear comparison with the famous battle fought on the Marne in 1914 by Gen. Manourville, which led to the great victory at the Marne."

"It is too soon yet to attempt to appraise the results. It is clear, however, that the Germans in this new salient may conceivably find themselves in a position of considerable difficulty; but it must be remembered that they have at their disposal the most powerful armament of the war. It may even bear comparison with the famous battle fought on the Marne in 1914 by Gen. Manourville, which led to the great victory at the Marne."

"American troops had a big part in the new offensive, which prompts the statement that it is perhaps not fully realized yet that the new German salient States troops have been fighting along the whole battle front, including the sector east of Rheims, where the enemy recently received an emphatic setback."

GERMANS FORESEE FAILURE.

Westphalian Newspaper Prepares Public for the News.

AMSTERDAM, July 18.—The war correspondent of the Rheinische Westfälische Zeitung of Essen, telegraphing from main headquarters Tuesday, says: "The enemy, composed of French, Italians and Americans, fought very bravely."

The correspondent asserts that a squadron of six French bombers and planes burst forth from long lying clouds and pelted the roads of the Marne Valley with a hail of explosives.

The newspaper, commenting editorially on the battle in the Marne region, says it is to be assumed that the allied resistance will grow considerably stronger and that some days will elapse before the resistance is fully broken.

Comment in the German press on the present German offensive on the Marne is in strong contrast to the observations on previous German offensives, the articles now being characterized by singular restraint.

In the Berliner Tageblatt yesterday, for instance, Gen. Foch is mentioned after stating that the Entente Allies did not expect the attack where it actually took place and that the laconic army communiques did not state whether the Germans were able to utilize the factor of surprise, adds:

"It will only be possible to perceive the strategic intentions of the German army command from the further course of the battle."

Gen. von Ardenne also considers it probable that the German attack will not be confined to the sector near Rheims.

"Victory yet is not a complete one," he concludes, "but the fatherland has hopes that it will become so."

The military critic of the Deutsche Tageszeitung says the only certainty is that Field Marshal von Hindenburg is again taking the initiative, that the Entente Allies are being weakened and that everything which happened during the course of the fighting had its good grounds.

Yesterday the Cologne Gazette considers the number of prisoners taken a high one when it is borne in mind that there was no question of a complete surprise, and that the Entente Allies did not allow themselves to be outflanked or cut off.

The military correspondent of the Vossische Zeitung also refers to the difficulty of utilizing the factor of surprise, "without which," it adds, "success can hardly be expected."

GERMANS DOUBT VICTORY.

Secret Fears of Failure in Drive Whispered.

GENEVA, July 18.—The newspaper Demokrate, which is usually well informed upon German affairs, declares that the latest information from across the Rhine shows mixed feelings in Germany regarding the new offensive.

While there is hope of victory and an early peace there are also secret fears of failure, which are only whispered, the article asserts.

The Franco-American Offensive Started Yesterday on a 25 Mile Front Between the Marne and the Aisne Rivers



In an offensive launched early yesterday over a twenty-five mile front the French and Americans penetrated from three to eight miles into the enemy's positions between the Marne and the Aisne, with Chateau

AMERICANS SHOW THRILLING HEROISM

At Bois de Conde Onrush of Foe Is Held Off by Deeds of Supreme Valor.

By RAYMOND G. CARROLL.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun from the London Times.

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WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE.

July 17 (delayed).—Take a map of France and place your finger upon Chateau Thierry. Then move it eastward along the winding course of the Marne River, past May on the southern bank. Now follow the loop in the waterway as it bends northward, then southward, to the town of Passy, on the northern bank. Below this loop is the wooded area called Bois de Conde.

Here, in a dense foliage, took place the series of desperate encounters after the Germans crossed the river, in which American troops, in for instruction where in France out from Montreal and obtained details of this fighting and acts of heroism.

Bugler McIlroy of Fox Chase, Pa., arrived at his regimental headquarters, where he was met by the captain. It was observed that Bugler McIlroy had fainted. He had been without food for forty-eight hours. When taken into the Colonel's mess, revived with water and offered food, he said:

"I cannot take it, for I must get back to my company. They need me."

The officers had to make him eat, but within ten minutes he was on the return trip, the Colonel proudly remarking to me:

"That is the sort of stuff there is in this unit."

Holds Off Avalanche of Foes.

The loyalty of the bugler was to Capt. William Williams of Philadelphia, assigned to the regimental headquarters during Monday's and Tuesday's fighting. The regimental adjutant tells the story that Capt. Williams, when the Germans came on with overwhelming numbers, went with one of his platoons to a hill at his rear to protect a flank. As the men dropped back from knoll to knoll they fought all the way, sometimes hand to hand. He covered the withdrawal with eleven men.

Another bugler named Jones of Somerset, Pa., and of another company, took charge of eighteen men, and after two days of continuous fighting through the woods, finally rejoined his regiment.

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PERSHING REPORTS ATTACKS REPULSED

Marne's Bank Cleared Before Counter Move.

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Gen. Pershing's report for yesterday says that in the American sector on the Marne the enemy has been entirely driven from the south bank.

The despatch, dated July 17, follows:

Section A.—In the Marne sector our troops have entirely regained possession of the south bank of the river. Northwest of Chateau Thierry the enemy yesterday repeated his attempts of the preceding day to penetrate our lines near Vaux. His attack was completely broken up by our infantry and artillery fire before reaching our lines.

Yesterday in the region of Thiacourt a hostile airplane was shot down by one of our aviators.

Section B.—Northwest of Chateau Thierry between the evening of July 14 and the evening of July 16 the enemy made determined but entirely unsuccessful attacks on our positions near Vaux. During the night July 14 to 15 he delivered a heavy bombardment, which included the use of much gas and which in the early morning developed into a barrage on the Vaux area. Under cover of this a storming party attacked the village.

The system of infiltration by groups was used and some of these groups passed one of our advanced outposts northeast of Vaux. Our troops delivered withering machine gun fire on the assaulting and counter-attacking parties, but fought with their rifles and machine guns.

Under this commander were two privateers who notably distinguished themselves. Joseph Bennett of Gwynedd, Pa., and Joseph Bennett of Pottsville, Pa., both Pennsylvanians. Bennett shot an enemy machine gunner who was up a tree as he had his gun turned on his Lieutenant and caught another German as he fell from the branches on his bayonet. He captured the machine gun. Wolf, who had been in the guard house, won his release and the compliments of his Colonel by capturing an enemy machine gun alone. The Germans having propped up the body of a dead American and hidden behind it. These are but a few of the deeds of valor from an American unit now in the big battle.

A Lieutenant commanding fifty men holding a knoll at Bois de Conde cut off from the regiment, called for a volunteer runner to make battalion headquarters. This was early Monday morning, during the German smash across the Marne east of Chateau Thierry, and eight runners had been killed trying to get word back to the same headquarters.

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